GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:715
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2002
TATKAL PASSPORTS
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Tatkal passports issued in 2001-2002;

(b) the quantum of fees collected thereby;

(c) whether there is a proposal to bring down the cost of issue of such passports;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken for revamping the passport issuing procedure?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) The number of Tatkal passports issued in the year 2001-2002 was 118500.

(b) The quantum of fees collected thereby in the year 2001-2002 was Rs. 16.12 crores.

(c) & (d) No, Sir.

(e) The simplification of passport issuance procedure is a continuous process. A Committee to reviews the Passport Issue System was constituted by the Government and it has since submitted its recommendations which have been accepted. The recommendations include proposals for decentralization of passport services to enable acceptance of passport application forms at District level. Steps have been taken to implement this proposal. Application forms are already being accepted at the designated speed post passport collection centers. Another recommendation already implemented relates to the simplification of the police verification process which would enable certain categories of persons, whose identity and nationality are well established, to be issued passports without police verification.